DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed 26 February 2008.

2. Claims 1-5, 7-14, 16, 17, 19-26, and 28-33 are currently pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 10-14, 16, 20-26 and 28-31 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomas et al. (U.S. 2003/0061335 A1) hereinafter referred to as Thomas in view of Nevarez et al. (U.S. 6,609,158 B1) hereinafter referred to as Nevarez.

a. Regarding claim 1, Thomas teaches: a housing (server computer 16 in Fig. 2 and paragraph [0022] on page 2); a first I/O device configured to couple to the electric equipment (paragraph [0017] on page 2 and interface card 18 of Fig. 2); a monitor coupled to the first I/O device and configured to determine information regarding the electric equipment (paragraphs [0017] and [0021] of page 2 and inter-process server 52 of Fig. 2); a second I/O device (interface card 20 of Fig. 2) configured to communicate with a computer via the communication network, the monitor being configured to provide the information regarding the electric equipment to the

communication network via the second I/O device (paragraph [0019] on page 2 and paragraphs [0022-0023] on pages 2-3); a memory that stores a computer-executable program configured to be executed by the computer to provide a computer interface for providing indicia of the information regarding the electric equipment, the computer interface being in a format that is distinct from a network browser format. (paragraphs [0022-0023] on pages 2-3); and an interface-provisioning device coupled to the memory and the second I/O device and configured to convey the computer-executable program toward the computer via the second I/O device and the communication network (paragraph [0003] on page 1 and paragraph [0022-0023] on page 2-3 and HMI module 64 in Fig. 2); wherein each of the first and second I/O devices, the monitor, the memory, and the interface-provisioning device are disposed at least partially in the housing (paragraph [0017] and Fig. 1 and 2).

Thomas does not explicitly teach: the second I/O device communicating with a remote computer; the program being executed by a remote computer; and conveying the program toward the remote computer. However, Nevarez discloses: "A remote provider 246 provides object access through a remote bridge 248 and the UCS product 224. The remote provider 246 may provide access, for instance, to an OLE component 236 by using remoting technology to get through to a Windows NT or OLE server 106. This may include tunneling through an "NSAPI" Netscape web server API and/or an "ISAPI" Windows NT web server API. The remote provider 230 accepts calls from the object model adapter 246, uses standard network technology such as the remote bridge 248 to contact remote objects, and relays parameters and results. The remote provider

230 may communicate via the network with another remote provider 246 at the remote location, or it may communicate with another object model provider (e.g., provider 242, 238, or 232), or with remote UCS product code as illustrated," (lines 39-53 of column 10, wherein the Remote Provider 246 is the second I/O unit which provides the program to a remote computer through remoting technology such as tunneling). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have the second I/O device communicate with a remote computer; have the program executed by a remote computer; and convey the program toward the remote computer. "In short, the UCS architecture 200, like the inventive architecture in other embodiments, provides versatility by letting a programmer use any programming language in the system to access any reusable component in the system," (lines 63-66 of column 10); and "The UCS architecture 200 thus provides a middle-tier solution for development on the NetWare platform. It makes the existing NetWare services relatively easy to consume and build into Internet and intranet solutions, and it provides an open standards-based solution. Because components may be run on either the local server or on a remote server, developers can use components that do not exist in the local execution environment. Remoting of components may be done through an event-passing protocol that leverages Web technologies such as TCP/IP," (lines 11-20 of column 11). It is for these reasons that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have the second I/O device communicate with a remote computer; have the program executed by a remote

computer; and convey the program toward the remote computer in the system as taught by Thomas.

b. Regarding claims 2-5, 7, and 8, Thomas teaches: the program is configured to provide an interface when executed, the program comprises the interface application; the program is configured to obtain the interface application, the program is configured to determine whether a desired version of an interface application is stored by the computer and if not, then to obtain the interface application, the interface is a Windows-based interface, and the monitor and the interface-provisioning device comprise software code (paragraphs [0022-0023] on page 2-3). Thomas does not explicitly teach "remote" computers. However, this limitation is discussed above in claim 1.

c. Regarding claim 10, Thomas teaches: the monitor is configured to determine information regarding at least one of air-conditioning equipment, a smart generator, a leak detector, a power distribution unit, an environmental monitoring device, and an automatic transfer switch (paragraphs [0003-0008] on page 1).

d. Claims 11-14 and 16 are article of manufacture claims (computer program product) containing the limitations as disclosed in the system claims 1-5, 7, and 8 and are rejected under the same rationale.

e. Claims 20-25 and 28-29 are method claims containing the limitations as disclosed in the system claims 1-5, 7, and 8 and are rejected under the same rationale.

f. Regarding claim 26, Thomas teaches: transferring an address of a network server accessible from the remote device to the remote device and accessing

the network server from the remote device and transferring to the remote device at least one of the user-interface program and a loader program configured to determine whether a desired version of the user-interface program is stored in association with the remote device (paragraphs [0022-0023] on pages 2-3 and paragraph [0034] on page 4).

g. Claims 30-31 are article of manufacture claims (computer program product) containing the limitations as disclosed in the system claims 1-5, 7, and 8 and are rejected under the same rationale.

h. Regarding claim 32, Thomas teaches: wherein the interface-provisioning device is configured to convey the computer-executable program toward the computer via the second input/output device and the communication network in response to a determination that the computer is not presently storing a latest version of the computer-executable program (paragraph [0003] on page 1 and paragraph [0022-0023] on page 2-3).

i. Regarding claim 33, Thomas teaches: wherein the interface-provisioning device is configured to make the determination that the remote computer is not presently storing the latest version of the computer-executable program paragraphs [0022-0023] on page 2-3.

5. Claims 9, 17, and 19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomas and Nevarez as applied above, in view of Potega (U.S. 6,459,175 B1).

a. Regarding claim 9, Thomas teaches a power supply (inherent in any computerized system) but does not explicitly teach AC power input, DC power source,

an output circuit including a power output, and a switch coupled to the AC input, the DC source, and the output circuit, and configured to couple the AC input or DC source to the output circuit. However, Potega discloses: "Power supplies are traditionally device-specific, in that the output voltage of the power converter, whether it be an AC/DC or DC/DC adapter, must be voltage-matched to the host device it was designed to power," (lines 16-19 of column 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have an AC power input, DC power source, an output circuit including a power output, and a switch coupled to the AC input, the DC source, and the output circuit, and configured to couple the AC input or DC source to the output circuit. "Output voltage of the power converter, whether it be an AC/DC or DC/DC adapter, must be voltage-matched to the host device it was designed to power," (lines 17-19 of column 1 in Potega). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have an AC power input, DC power source, an output circuit including a power output, and a switch coupled to the AC input, the DC source, and the output circuit, and configured to couple the AC input or DC source to the output circuit in the system as taught by Thomas.

b. Regarding claim 17, Thomas teaches: power supply (inherent in any computerized system), a first I/O device configured to couple to the electric equipment (paragraph [0017] on page 2); a monitor coupled to the first I/O device and configured to determine information regarding the electric equipment (paragraphs [0017] and [0021] of page 2); a second I/O device coupled to the monitor and configured to communicate with the communication network, the monitor being configured to provide the

information regarding the electric equipment to the communication network via the second I/O device (paragraph [0019] on page 2 and paragraphs [0022-0023] on pages 2-3); a memory that stored a computer-executable program configured to be executed by a computer to provide a computer interface for providing indicia of the information regarding the electric equipment, the computer interface being in a format that is distinct from a network browser format. (paragraphs [0022-0023] on pages 2-3); and an interface-provisioning device coupled to the memory and the second I/O device and configured to convey the computer-executable program toward the computer via the second I/O device and the communication network (paragraph [0003] on page 1 and paragraph [0022-0023] on page 2-3); wherein each of the first and second I/O devices, the monitor, the memory, and the interface-provisioning device are disposed at least partially in the housing (paragraph [0017] and Fig. 1 and 2).

Thomas does not explicitly teach: the second I/O device communicating with a remote computer; the program being executed by a remote computer; conveying the program toward the remote computer; AC power input, DC power source, an output circuit including a power output, and a controllable switch coupled to the AC power input, the DC power source, and the output circuit, and configured to selectively couple at least one of the AC power input or DC power source to the output circuit. However, Nevarez discloses: "A remote provider 246 provides object access through a remote bridge 248 and the UCS product 224. The remote provider 246 may provide access, for instance, to an OLE component 236 by using remoting technology to get through to a Windows NT or OLE server 106. This may include tunneling through an "NSAPI"

Netscape web server API and/or an "ISAPI" Windows NT web server API. The remote provider 230 accepts calls from the object model adapter 246, uses standard network technology such as the remote bridge 248 to contact remote objects, and relays parameters and results. The remote provider 230 may communicate via the network with another remote provider 246 at the remote location, or it may communicate with another object model provider (e.g., provider 242, 238, or 232), or with remote UCS product code as illustrated," (lines 39-53 of column 10, wherein the Remote Provider 246 is the second I/O unit which provides the program to a remote computer through remoting technology such as tunneling). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have the second I/O device communicate with a remote computer; have the program executed by a remote computer; and convey the program toward the remote computer.

"In short, the UCS architecture 200, like the inventive architecture in other embodiments, provides versatility by letting a programmer use any programming language in the system to access any reusable component in the system," (lines 63-66 of column 10); and "The UCS architecture 200 thus provides a middle-tier solution for development on the NetWare platform. It makes the existing NetWare services relatively easy to consume and build into Internet and intranet solutions, and it provides an open standards-based solution. Because components may be run on either the local server or on a remote server, developers can use components that do not exist in the local execution environment. Remoting of components may be done through an event-passing protocol that leverages Web technologies such as TCP/IP," (lines 11-20 of

column 11). It is for these reasons that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have the second I/O device communicate with a remote computer; have the program executed by a remote computer; and convey the program toward the remote computer in the system as taught by Thomas.

Regarding: AC power input, DC power source, an output circuit including a power output, and a controllable switch coupled to the AC input, the DC source, and the output circuit, and configured to couple the AC input or DC source to the output circuit, Potega discloses: "Power supplies are traditionally device-specific, in that the output voltage of the power converter, whether it be an AC/DC or DC/DC adapter, must be voltage-matched to the host device it was designed to power," (lines 16-19 of column 1). Additionally, Potega discloses: "The power input connection has a controllable switch, so that the input voltage can be sent to one of the two power converter modules," (lines 55-57 of column 40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have an AC power input, DC power source, an output circuit including a power output, and a switch coupled to the AC input, the DC source, and the output circuit, and configured to couple the AC input or DC source to the output circuit. "Output voltage of the power converter, whether it be an AC/DC or DC/DC adapter, must be voltage-matched to the host device it was designed to power," (lines 17-19 of column 1 in Potega). Also, "The AC/DC converter is wired directly to the DC/DC unit, so that the Variable DC Output module provides all power output of the unit. Operating the power as a 28 VDC voltage regulator is important. Were this circuit

to be on a commercial airliner, the choice of 28 VDC input would have significant benefits. Such multi-output power supplies on aircraft are specifically for passengers to power their laptop computers. Since laptop computers require a power signal anywhere from 10-24 VDC, stepping down from a 28-volt source makes for good power efficiency," (lines 3-13 of column 41 in Potega). It is for these reasons that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have an AC power input, DC power source, an output circuit including a power output, and a switch coupled to the AC input, the DC source, and the output circuit, and configured to couple the AC input or DC source to the output circuit in the system as taught by Thomas

c. Regarding claim 19, Thomas teaches: the interface is a Windows-based interface (paragraphs [0022-0023] on page 2-3).

Response to Arguments

6. The applicant provided no arguments, but amended the claims in accordance with the examiner's suggestions as stated in the interview held on 05 February 2008. See attached interview summary, paper no. 20080205.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Meucci at (571) 272-3892. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell, can be reached at (571) 272-3868. The fax phone number for this Group is 571-273-8300.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [michael.meucci@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

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/Andrew Caldwell/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2142